

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE

the marquee • volume 6 • no. 3

DECEMBER 1979

The MARQUEE is supported in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

On this page of the last MARQUEE (Vol. 6 No. 2) is a misleading statement. I said that current AKT members are entitled to a reduced AKT conference registration fee. It is true that non-members or those with expired memberships pay ten dollars more for conference registration, but this includes a current AKT membership. This means that whether you join/renew at the beginning of the membership year, or do so at conference time, the combined cost of your membership and your conference registration is the same. Follow? Good!

This year we elect a new president-elect of AKT. The nominating committee has met and chosen a strong slate of candidates (two in number as the AKT constitution provides). The ballot is being mailed separately, and members should return their ballots by February 1. If for any reason you didn't receive your ballot, please let us know immediately. At any rate, many thanks to the members of the nominating committee: Hugh McCausland, committee chair (University/College Division), Kevin Alexander (University/College), Eglar Birmingham (University/College), Mary Doveton (Community Theatre Division - KCTC), Lois Griffing (Secondary School Division), and Nancy Kelley (Secondary School). The AKT president is an ex-officio member of the committee. These people did their work well, and the candidates for AKT President-elect are: John Holly, General Manager of Music Theatre of Wichita & past chair of AKT's Professional Division; and Piet Knetsch, Assistant Professor of Speech & Drama at Bethany College, Lindsborg, and current chair of AKT's University/College Division.

The 1980 AKT Conference Program is looking like one of the best ever. It includes—in addition to the usual excellent workshops, demonstrations, and performances—some new Kansas Theatre Awards; a children's theatre festival; a featured WSU production of Robert Patrick's Kennedy's Children, with the playwright on hand to talk about it; ATA President-elect David Gooder; and a major stage, screen and television actor (his schedule permitting). Mark your calendar for the 6th Annual AKT Conference: February 29, March 1 & 2, at the Holiday Inn Plaza in Wichita.

AKT MEMBERS! If your name is on page 5, and you haven't renewed your membership since this issue of MARQUEE went to press, please use the membership form on page 14 and do it now! Thanks for your continuing support. It helps us serve you better.

RON FREDERICKSON

NOTICE TO AKT MEMBERS

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At our Annual Conference and Business Meeting of the Association, the Board of Directors will be proposing several changes in the AKT Constitution. The first is the addition of the word "Incorporated" to our name (since we did indeed incorporate this year), and the second is the addition of an Executive Committee to the AKT structure. The new Constitution is printed below, with the changes in italics.

AKT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Association of Kansas Theatre, *Incorporated*.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purposes of the Association of Kansas Theatre are:

1. To promote and perpetuate the highest caliber of theatre production, teaching, research *and management* at all levels of theatre within the state of Kansas.
2. To unite exclusively for literary and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and in this connection, to promote and encourage all forms of theatre and dramatic endeavors in Kansas, to foster the exchange of information between persons and organizations engaged in theatrical activity, and to do all acts necessary or convenient for carrying out the foregoing purposes, provided that no purpose and no activity shall be undertaken and performed which is not permitted by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any corresponding future provision of the Revenue Code.
3. To establish a Kansas membership similar in composition to and affiliated with the American Theatre Association to serve as the voice of ATA within the state.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership is open to any individual or group that supports the purposes of this organization.
2. Categories of membership and appropriate dues structures may be established from time to time by the [Executive Committee] *Board of Directors*.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a President-Elect, a [Executive] Secretary-Treasurer [DELETE: "and divisional chairpersons representing the major areas of theatre in the state of Kansas."] *and the Past-President*. The officers will compose the Executive Committee of the Association. The officers will receive no salary for services to the Association.

ARTICLE V: [EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE] BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The [Executive Committee] *Board of Directors* shall be composed of the above-named officers (*Executive Committee*) (DELETE: "and the immediate past-president") *and the Chairpersons of the separate Divisions of the Association*. The [Executive Committee] *Board of Directors* shall exercise the powers granted to it in the By-laws.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

The Association shall meet at least once a year as called by the President.

ARTICLE VII: LIQUIDATION OF ASSETS

No part of the net income, revenue, and grants of the Association shall inure to the benefit of any member, officer or private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered in connection with one or more of its purposes) and no member, officer, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of a part of the assets of the Association on its dissolution or liquidation. In the event of such dissolution or liquidation, the assets of the Association, after payment of debts and obligations, shall be transferred to an organization with federal tax exemption for charitable and educational uses and purposes similar to those of this Association, which exempt organization shall be designated by the final [Executive Committee] Board of Directors of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any ten members of the Association or by the [Executive Committee] Board of Directors, submitted in writing to the [executive] Secretary-Treasurer for distribution to the entire membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Approval by two-thirds of those members attending the annual business meeting at which the amendment is presented is necessary to authorize the change.

Once the changes in the Constitution are approved, the Board of Directors will modify the By-laws to conform in language to the Constitution.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Association of Community Arts Councils of Kansas has recently published a Directory of Kansas Foundations (1979). Copies may be ordered from the ACACK Office at 509 A Kansas Ave., Topeka, 66603, for \$5.00 plus 80¢ postage and handling. For additional information, contact Connie Townsley, editor, at the above address.

The Community Children's Theatre of Kansas City, Inc., is sponsoring its annual contest, Playwriting for Children. Deadline for submission of plays is January 15, 1980. Top award is \$500. For further information and rules, contact: Mrs. Thomas Woodbury, 1015 West 55th St., Kansas City, MO 64113.

Modern Theatre for Youth has some new scripts available. Contact: Mark Ollington, 2366 Grandview Terrace, Manhattan, KS 66502.

COMMUNITY THEATRE PEOPLE -- For information regarding books and other materials regarding working with volunteers, write for a publication called Volunteer Readership: VOLUNTEER, P.O. Box 1807, Boulder, CO 80306. It's free

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"The only way in which man's institutions may become immortal is if mortal men do not shackle their institutions to themselves. By so doing, they doom their institutions to their own mortality." (John Bitterman)

WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Thanks to all listed below whose checks have been gratefully received. Those marked with an * are Contributing Members who deserve special thanks. If your name isn't listed and should be, please let me know.

RENEWALS

Bales, Connie
 THE BARN PLAYERS
 Carns, Demmaree
 Cavarozzi, Joyce
 Doyen, Peggy
 Haehl, Chez
 Hostetler, Mike
 Karsting, Rosemary
 Kendrick, Mike
 Little, Elizabeth
 Lotz, Pat
 Lunn, Constance Butler
 McNeer, Ann
 Murphy, Cheryl
 Needles, Audrey
 NEOSHO CTY COMM. COLLEGE
 Ollington, Mark
 Phillip, Sheilah
 Phipps-Winfrey, Mary Lou
 Pritchard, Merna*
 Pritchard, Robert
 Ptacek, Cheryl
 Spencer, Betty J.
 Tsubaki, Andrew
 Tucker, Joyce
 WELLINGTON COMM. THEATRE
 Welsbacher, Richard

NEW MEMBERS

Adams, Randy
 BETHEL COLLEGE
 Campbell, Matthias
 CLOUD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 Cohen, Jay
 COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF KC
 Eilert, Dee
 FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
 FREDONIA PLAYERS
 GASLIGHT THEATRE (FORT RILEY)
 Herman, Richard
 Holland, Julie
 Hutchens, Chris
 IOLA COMMUNITY THEATRE
 Ketzel, Lee
 Mahler-Shelton, Lynn
 MARION COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL
 McKenna, Frances
 MCPHERSON COLLEGE
 Menninger, Constance*
 Neidig, Jacqueline
 OLATHE COMMUNITY THEATRE ASSN.
 OLATHE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL
 Owsley, Kathleen
 PRAIRIE THEATRE
 PRATT COMMUNITY JUNIOR COLLEGE
 SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
 Springer, Andrea
 THEATRICAL SERCIES, INC.
 Tighlman, Romalyn
 Van Vooren, Mary Ann
 Velasquez, Elizabeth
 Volk, Helen
 Walker, Karen

IF YOU HAVE LOST YOUR AKT MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE, USE THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION IN THIS
 ISSUE OF MARQUEE. PLEASE JOIN TODAY! HAD YOU CONSIDERED GIVING AN AKT MEMBERSHIP TO
 A FRIEND FOR CHRISTMAS?

The AKT Central Office has received its first gift of playscripts from Piet Knetsch. Available to borrow are: The House of Blue Leaves, The Odd Couple, Glass Menagerie, J.B., Purlie Victorious, Marat-Sade, America Hurrah, Antigone (Anouilh), Diary of Anne Frank, Inspector General, You Can't Take It with You, Dark of the Moon, Moliere collection, Adding Machine, Beggar on Horseback, All My Sons, Major Barbara, Arms and the Man, Importance of Being Earnest, and Thurber Carnival. THANKS, PIET! If any of the rest of you have any scripts lying around gathering dust, please mail them to the Central Office so AKT can provide this service (1334 Lakeside Dr., Topeka, KS 66604).

ATTENTION 1979 AKT MEMBERS!

If your name is listed below, your membership in AKT expires December 31, 1979 -- unless you have mailed a check for renewal that would have arrived at the Central Office, 1334 Lakeside Drive, Topeka, 66604, since November 19th. PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Adams, Debbie	Gibson, Judy	Miller, James M.	Thatcher, Stacie
Alexander, Kevin	Gideron, Mary A.	Mitchell, Tom	TOMAHAWK DRAMA SERV. L.
Antes, Shirley	Glenn, Jennifer	Modrall, James	TOPEKA CIVIC THEATRE
Apfelbeck, Rick	Gobetz, Robert	Modrall, Suzan	Torrence, Carole
Appelhans, Chris	Griffing, Lois	Montague, Jeff	Tuggle, Stephanie
Arnold, Dennis	Hansen, Jayne	Moon, Allyson	Ungar, Elana
Austin, Gina	Harkness, Roberta	Moon, Roger	Unruh, Delbert
Averill, Jean	Hayes, Ernestine	Morris, Dee	Ussery, Craig
Baldwin, Rodger	Hendrix, Erlene	Mulhern, Mrs. G.M.	VASSAR PLAYHOUSE
Bales, John	HESSTON COLLEGE	Murphy, Marge	Vierthaler, Robert
Barnhart, Jennifer	Hill, Charles R.	Murrell, Dawn	Wallace, Elaine
Bengsten, Barry	Hillman, Judith M.	MUSIC THEATRE OF W.	Warner, Gwen
Berry, Ned	Hofferber, Michael	Natoli, Marlene	Warren, Nelson
BETHANY COLLEGE	Hofferber, Sandra	Pate, Tom	WAY-OFF BWAY PLAYERS
Birmingham, Elga	Holly, John	Pearl, Mike	Webb, Linda
Boehr, Ken	HUTCHINSON REP	Peintner, Tom	Webb, Mike
Borden, Linda Lea	Jackson, Molly	Phillips, Mark	Welch, Christy
Brown, Ruth	Johnson, Alice L.	PITTSBURG STATE U.	Whitmer, Scott
Busick, Pinky	Johnson, Bill	Pouppist, Jan	WICHITA COMM. THEATRE
Caldwell, Evie	Johnson, Noella	Pratt, Paula	WICHITA STATE UNIV.
CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL	Johnston, Janet	Queen, Matthew	Wilks, June
Carr, Angela	Jones, Laura B.	Querton, Geoffrey	Williams, Ellen
Cave, Camilla	Jones, Sarah L.	Ray, J. Karen	Willis, Ronald
Charlsen, Nadine	JUNCTION CITY L.T.	Redman, Gretchen	WINFIELD COMM. THEATRE
Chipman, Jay Scott	Kamery, Doug	Roberts, Genell	Yabul, Anastasia
Christie, William J.	Keeny, Pam	Roberts, Krista	Yaryan, Bronna
Clark, David	Kelley, Nancy	Rogers, Maggie	Yoder, Jeff
Clasz, Cary	Kenyon, Jason M.	Rogers, Veda	Young, David
Counts, Tim	Killian, Patricia	Rupp, Joanna	
Cowell, Sharon	Kinsch, Karen	Rush, Mike	
Crosbie, Judy	Knetsch, Piet	Russell, Lee Wm.	
Crowell, Carolyn	Landes, Billy	Russell, Marilyn	
CROWN UPTOWN	LAWRENCE COMM. TH.	Russell, Rod	
Crubb, Paul	Lazarus, Joan	Rust, Joseph H.	
Dale, Sandy	Lehman, John C.	Rustin, Laura	
Davis, Jed	Livengood, Nancy	Sack, Thomas L.	
Deschaine, Mary Grace	Loy, Harold W.	Saggs, Ken-Nelson	
Dittman, Cindy	McCausland, Hugh G.	ST. MARY/PLAINS	
Doveton, Mary	McCausland, Margaret	SALINA COMM. TH.	
Dreiling, Greg	McCurry, Spencer	Sandfort, Judy	
Ehnen, Courteney	McDonald, Mary	Sayler, Marilyn	
Eklund, Sally J.	McKeithan, Ryan	Schucker, Genie	
EMPORIA STATE UNIV.	MCPHERSON TH. GUILD	Seymour, Michelle	
Fedder, Norman J.	Maglaughlin, Rebecca	Sidebottom, Tim	
Fischer, Charles W.	Mahon, Sean T.	Sorensen, Alicia	
Flagler, Marcheta	Mancini, Doral	STAFFORD DRAMA G.	
Ford, Janice	Marotte, Melanie	Steinle, Lenette	
FORT SCOTT COMM. JR. COLL.	Mason, Charlotte	Stewart, Marsha	
Frederickson, Ron	Matassarini, Kat	Stille, Theresa	
Fricker, Mary Jane	Maxwell, Teresa	Stramel, Marcia	
Frickey, Linda	Maynard, Misty	Syler, John	
Froehlich, Cheryl	Meador, June	Taylor, Tommy	
Gatz, Jo	Meder, Brenda	Tharp, Steve	

*** DISCLAIMER ***

If your name is listed here and shouldn't be, please let me know -- there is always a danger in making a list of this type. The IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU BECOME AN AKT MEMBER FOR 1979-1980!!!

DIVISIONAL REPORTS

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE DIVISION:

The University/College Division of AKT held its annual meeting in Lindsborg on October 6th of this year. Eighteen members attended, representing 5 of the state universities, 3 private four-year colleges, and 3 community colleges. One of the important issues discussed concerned the status of membership in AKT as a whole and in our Division in particular. The following report of our membership was distributed by your Chairman at the meeting, and is included here for everyone's information.

The University and College Division of AKT: Membership for 1979

35 Individual memberships

39 Student memberships

13 Organizational memberships

87 Memberships

State University Support of AKT

University	Organ. Member	No. of Individual Members	Potential Members
University of Kansas	no	5	12
Wichita State Univ.**	yes	3	6
Emporia State Univ.**	yes	4	5
Ft. Hays State Univ.	yes (1979-80)	0	3
Pittsburg State Univ.**	yes	3	3
Kansas State Univ.	no	2	9
		<u>17</u>	<u>38</u>

**1979-80 dues are due

Private Institutions: total of 9 organizational members (Bethany, Ft. Scott, Hesston, Neosho County, St. Mary of the Plains, Bethel, McPherson, Pratt, Southwestern), from a potential total of approximately 40.

Total of 10 individual memberships, from a potential membership in excess of 50.

It is readily evident from these figures that our Division is not very strongly represented in AKT as far as our membership total is concerned. I would therefore like to make a special appeal to everyone to help us improve these figures. Our AKT institutional membership fees are so reasonable, so let us strive to increase our institutional memberships from the present 13 to a new high of 20. Similarly, I would like to work toward a goal of 50 individual memberships, an increase of 15 over current figures. Please help us attain these goals. Not only do we need your money (and we do need that, too), we also need your support and talent and input.

For the past two years, the University/College Division has published a directory of faculty members at all colleges and universities in Kansas. Unfortunately, financial considerations will make it impossible to publish a new edition this year. Last year's issue cost us more than \$120 to publish and distribute. Anyone wishing to receive copies of that directory can still do so by writing to me, Piet Knetsch, c/o Bethany College, Lindsborg, 67456. I will be glad to furnish you with complimentary copies of this useful directory.

One of the proposals which came out of our fall meeting concerned a very tangible way to make AKT membership "pay off." It was suggested that institutions willing to participate would agree to provide either free admission, or admission at reduced cost, to anyone holding a current AKT membership card. The provision would have to include the stipulation that the individual would need to make reservations, if necessary.

University/College Division, continued:

Several schools have already indicated a desire to include such a policy, and I would appreciate hearing from others who would be willing to honor this policy as well. Please drop me a note, and perhaps we can publish a list of participating institutions in a future MARQUEE.

COMMUNITY THEATRES, PLEASE NOTE: The final item concerns a proposal which was put forth in 1978, which I entitled a "Guest Artist Exchange Program." In a nutshell, the idea was to get organizations or institutions in need of guest artists (directors, actors, designers) in touch with personnel in need of such opportunities. It was my feeling that theatre graduate students would be particularly suitable and available, and that in many cases they could even arrange to get graduate credit for their work. The program need not be limited to graduate students, however, and could include faculty members or other qualified persons as well. The feeling has been expressed to me that some community theatres could especially benefit from such a program, and the same might be true of small colleges also. AKT is in a position to serve as the clearing house for this program, providing there is an interest. If you do have an interest in this program, please write to Twink Lynch at the Central Office (1334 Lakeside Dr., Topeka, 66604), or to me (c/o Bethany College, Lindsborg, 67456).

-- Piet Knetsch

SECONDARY SCHOOL DIVISION:

Kansas Secondary Schools are really coming alive in a flurry of activities this fall. The State Thespian Society is closing the decade with two of the largest district conferences in several years.

Paola High School hosted a conference on November 16-17 for approximately 15 schools. There were five major productions from area schools and two days of top-notch workshops conducted by professionals from across the state. Special guest was Suzanne Fox, founder of the Nationalist Mime Theatre.

Campus High School will be hosting a district Thespian Conference on December 7-8. There will be 4 or 5 major productions and numerous workshops by theatre professionals from around the state. Special guest will be Robert Patrick, award winning New York playwright and author of Kennedy's Children.

-- Nadine Charlson

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION:

The Professional Division met at Vassar on September 22, 1979. Audition feedback from the 1979 Conference was discussed. Suggestions were made regarding additional auditioning theatres (e.g., Nebraska Theatre Caravan, Tiffany's Attic, Missouri Rep, etc). An unofficial survey of the 1979 auditions showed that 40% of those auditioning acquired jobs as a result of the AKT auditions.

The function and goals of the Division were discussed. The following were adopted as our primary purposes:

1. To provide full communication liaison with all theatre divisions in the state.
2. To help keep Kansas artists working in Kansas
3. To maintain and build annual auditions
4. To help raise funds for the annual budget for AKT
5. To provide workshops and/or Showcase talent for the annual AKT Conference.

A Central placement center for AKT with a central resume file maintained was requested. It was suggested that perhaps the Executive Director's office may be the logical place for maintenance of such a center (EDITOR'S NOTE: RIGHT!).

Fund raising ideas were discussed. An evening showcase presented by the Professional

Professional Division, continued:

Division was suggested with ticket proceeds to go to AKT. This idea was presented to the AKT Board and gratefully accepted. Planning for this Showcase is currently underway for the 1980 Conference in Wichita.

Jeff Corrick was elected Chairperson-Elect.

-- Veda Rogers

EXECUTIVE NOTES

On November 16, I attended a meeting set up by the Kansas Arts Commission concerning 504 (Arts and the Handicapped) regulations. It was enlightening and stimulating. I came away feeling challenged and wondering how the theatre people in Kansas are going to respond to the "mainstreaming" of the handicapped into our arts experiences.

Essentially 504 is a non-discrimination regulation, not an "affirmative action" one. That means we cannot any longer, consciously or unconsciously, keep persons with handicapping conditions from participating in our arts programming solely on the basis of their handicaps, but we do not have to completely alter our programs to provide a certain number of opportunities for such persons (for example, we do not have to offer at least one play a year that has a part in it for a person with one of the four handicapping conditions).

Every arts organizations receiving any kind of federal funds (CETA, revenue sharing, National Endowment/Kansas Arts Commission, etc), must do a self-evaluation with the help of a committee composed of persons with handicapping conditions. My feeling is that if your community has an arts council, it would be well for that arts council to establish the advisory committee of handicapped persons to be of service to all arts groups in the community, rather than each arts group setting up its own committee. There is no standard form for this self-evaluation, but it must include a look at your program's accessibility to persons with mental, physical, visual, and hearing impairments. It should note positive aspects of your program as well as negative (e.g., if your building already has ramps for the orthopedically handicapped, say so; if, like the Omaha Playhouse you already do one "signed" performance of each production, say so).

The Kansas Arts Commission itself must complete such an evaluation, and Mary Browne, KAC Coordinator for 504 has said she will make the form they develop available to others.

According to the legislation, it is supposed to be done by the end of November, 1979, and kept in your files. If you find that deadline impossible to keep, do the best you can as quickly as you can.

For those of you with facilities, had you thought of using raised lettering on the rest rooms so visually impaired people can find the proper one without having to ask? How about casting a blind person in your production of Butterflies Are Free? How about trying to establish a creative dramatics program that could be available to persons with mental/emotional handicaps? How about sponsoring a tour of the Little Theatre of the Deaf?

I was particularly moved by the remarks and mime demonstration of Bernard Bragg, who has worked with Marcel Marceau and who is, by the way, deaf. And I was very stimulated by the workshop re the visually impaired which was a tactile art exhibit (sculpture) for which we were all blindfolded and found our way around the exhibit by following a string. Michael Byington, now of Topeka, was particularly articulate about the needs of the visually handicapped.

The Association of Kansas Theatre will offer a program regarding 504 at our Convention in Wichita, March 1st. Mary Browne has agreed to come and explain the background of the legislation, which was absolutely fascinating to me and helped me to see it in a whole different light. Every theatre group receiving any kind of federal funds and all organizational members of AKT should plan to send at least one representative to that session.

-- Twink Lynch

AKT 6th Annual Conference - Wichita - February 29, March 1 and 2, 1980

USITT - Glenwood Manor, Overland Park, KS - March 12-15, 1980

FIRST REGION V (Mid-America Theatre Conference) CONFERENCE - Omaha - March 29-30, 1980

ACTA FLOATING CONFERENCE - Southern California - August, 1980 (precedes ATA Convention)

ATA ANNUAL CONVENTION - San Diego - August 10-13, 1980

1981 AKT Conference - Salina - March 13-15, 1981 (INCLUDES FACT '81)

1981 REGIONAL FACT FESTIVAL - Topeka - May 8-10, 1981

1981 ATA CONVENTION - Dallas - August, 1981

People interested in Technical Theatre are particularly urged to attend the USITT meeting March 12-15, 1980, in Overland Park. Among special events planned are: the Scenographic Heritage of Jo Mielziner, the past decade in European Scenography, the Folger Shakespeare Library Exhibit (at the Nelson Gallery of Art, exhibits from leading manufacturers of theatrical supplies, Award winning professional and student scenography exposition, and a tour of the Missouri Rep's new theatre: the Helen F. Spencer Theatre in KC. For further information, write to USITT, 1501 Broadway, New York, NY 10036.

Community Theatre Directors are urged to attend a conference of Professional Community Theatre Directors which will be held in conjunction with the FIRST REGION V CONFERENCE in Omaha, the weekend of March 28-30, 1980. I've talked to several directors who attended the first such meeting in Racine, Wisconsin, last spring, and they couldn't say enough good things about it. Let's have Kansas represented this time! Community theatres I know of that have paid directors are: Salina, Topeka Civic, Topeka Recreation Dept., and Wichita. There may be others I don't know about, but at least maybe the four of you could get together and get to Omaha...

Got a call the other day from George Churley, a puppeteer from Lincoln, Nebraska, whom I met when we were both delegates to the Mid America Assembly on the Future of the Performing Arts (see report in this MARQUEE). His puppet company, the Mid America Puppet Theatre will be touring in Kansas in October, 1980. They can do two performances and workshops in one day for a cost of \$1800, 35% of which will be paid by the Mid America Arts Alliance. If you are interested in learning about George's intriguing arm puppets, write him at 3831 Castle Circle, Lincoln, NE 68524, or call: area 402, 472-2617. (P.S. Logan, KS has already booked him!)

William Robinson of the Professional Resources Organization called the other day and is looking for a group to tour a melodrama or a play by an American playwright to high schools in small towns in Kansas in the spring of 1980. There must be a small cast, and the fee is negotiable. Contact Mr. Robinson by writing: P.O. Box 36, Friendville, MD 21531, or calling 301-746-5515 between 9 and 4 Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

(Note: these are the schedules known to the editor at press time. If your schedule isn't included here or in the two previous issues of Marquee, Volume 6, it means you need to send it to Twink at the Central Office: 1334 Lakeside Dr., Topeka, 66604)

DISTRICT I (Northwest)

No schedules known at this time.

DISTRICT II (North Central)

Abilene Community Theatre

Mousetrap - November 15, 16, 17, 18
The Odd Couple - February 21, 22, 23, 24
Death Takes a Holiday - May 8, 9, 10, 11
Irene - August 7, 8, 9, 10

DISTRICT III (Northeast)

No new schedules sent in

DISTRICT IV (Southwest)

No schedules known at this time

DISTRICT V (South Central)

Wichita Community Theatre

The Good Doctor - October 2-7, 12-13 (Guest artist: Charles Oldfather)
Arsenic and Old Lace - December 5-9
Equus - January 23-27
Toys in the Attic - April 2-6

Hutchinson Repertory Company

Hanzel & Gretel - Waterville, KS - January 19 and 20, 1980
I Do, I Do - Tipton, KS - January 26
HRC Showcase - Hutchinson - February 11
Candide - Waterville - February 16 and 17
Hanzel & Gretel - Satanta - February 22
Hanzel & Gretel - Wichita (AKT) - March 1
HRC Showcase - Wichita (AKT) - March 1
Virginia Woolf - Hutchinson - March 14-15

DISTRICT VI (Southeast)

Iola Community Theatre

Shenandoah - September, 1979
Harvey - Nov. 30, Dec. 1
No, No, Nanette - March 26, 27, 28, 29, 1980

Pittsburg Community Theater

The Music Man - Nov. 16-17
The Matchmaker - Dates to be announced

Betty Spencer of Iola wrote to tell me about the Kansas City Costume Company which is used by the Iola Community Theatre; Betty says they are wonderful! Address: 8125 Santa Fe Drive, Overland Park, 66204. Phone: 913/381-6639 or 913/642-5025. One of the owners has started a new business called "Kenmark" which will have some lighting equipment, drops, and props.

FINAL REPORT

THE MID-AMERICA ASSEMBLY

on the Future of the Performing Arts

Kansas City, Missouri
September 16, 1979

At the close of their discussions the participants in the Mid-America Assembly on the Future of the Performing Arts at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, September 13-16, 1979, reviewed as a group the following statement. The statement represents general agreement; however, no one was asked to sign it. Furthermore, it should not be assumed that every participant subscribes to every recommendation.

PREAMBLE

In the past twenty years the nation has experienced a satisfying increase in the number and quality of performing arts institutions, facilities, and audiences. The Mid-America Assembly on the Future of the Performing Arts looks upon this phenomenon as admirable because of our deep conviction that the performing arts are of central importance to the health of a democratic society in which personal expression has always been held to be of paramount importance. It is indeed the arts that provide our best means for self expression and for celebrating the privilege of our existence. The arts provide one of the few ways in which the display and understanding of emotion is legitimate and central.

RESOLUTIONS

1. We believe the primary tenet of a national performing arts policy should be to advance the professional quality and integrity of the performing arts, but we recognize support of the performing arts for community, educational, and social goals is important to our Midwest region. We therefore believe that a high priority should be attached to community and educational programs in the performing arts.

2. We believe it is important to support the development of indigenous professional quality performing arts organizations. They should be encouraged to tour, if they wish, throughout the region in complement with fully professional nationally recognized performing arts institutions to the end that the best of both can be more regularly and widely available to the communities of the region.

3. We believe decentralization of National Endowment support for the performing arts has strengthened artistic resources in a variety of ways: Popularizing the arts, providing a geographical and equitable sharing of tax dollars, and expanding total resources through the use of public funds. We believe a federal division of activities in supporting national treasures, regional activities, and state art councils is appropriate. We therefore acknowledge the present Federal/State Partnership allocations as acceptable and urge that further Endowment efforts at decentralization be undertaken as soon as possible.

4. We believe that at the state and regional level considerable need exists for the additional development of audiences, artistic leadership, management skills and the strengthening of sponsorship capabilities, individual community resources, and the networks which connect them. However, these actions should be taken on the basis of needs as perceived at the local, state or regional level.

As a result of the recent acceleration of performing arts activities, the members of this Assembly have come together heartened by these past two decades of progress but also out of a concern that this unprecedented progress in the arts does not lead to a waste of opportunity, waste of financial resources, waste of creativity, or loss of public credibility. We are particularly concerned that there is not now a public policy on the performing arts which affirms the special needs and strengths of this region as well as the other diverse sections of our country.

We therefore feel one of the primary purposes of this Assembly should be to give voice to our region's particular needs and strengths as they should apply to the formulation of a national policy. Furthermore, it is our hope that subsequent to this report, other regions will also contribute a dialogue that will become the basis for developing a flexible, comprehensive national policy that will nurture and consolidate current and future resources.

The Assembly believes that a national policy on the performing arts is possible and desirable provided there is recognition of important and diverse regional strengths and needs. This policy should acknowledge the value of the performing arts as an important national resource and that government should make a continuing commitment to adequate financial support of the arts. Such a policy should be developed with full participation at the state and regional levels.

It is hoped that the creation of this report will serve as an important preliminary step toward continued grass roots participation in the development of a national policy on the arts.

5. We believe quality of performance for, and continued development of interest and involvement among, young people in the performing arts are very important as ends in themselves.
6. We believe the role of colleges and universities in the performing arts is varied, important and multi-faceted. In the Midwest, colleges and universities are an integral part of the professional cultural opportunities of the region, and sometimes are principal producers of quality arts performances and experiences. Because of this, integration and cooperation of college, university and professional performance activities in our region are essential. We favor the inclusion of colleges, universities and conservatories as among the legitimate recipients of funding from federal agencies and state art agencies.
7. We believe that all the arts should be included in and integrated with the core curriculum in all elementary and secondary schools.
8. We believe the underlying justification of subsidy for performing artists and their organizations is found in their commitment to craft and serious repertoire. Other important reasons favoring these subsidies include economic benefits derived by a community, increased accessibility of and participation in the performing arts, and opportunities to encourage creation of new works. It is clear that the quality and quantity of performing arts in this country and the opportunity for audiences to enjoy them would have been destroyed over the past twenty years but for the work of the recipients of these subsidies, the non-profit performing organizations. Career opportunities for artists in these fields would have suffered proportionately.
9. We believe it is important that the relationship between trustees of non-profit performing arts organizations and their artistic and administrative managers should be clearly articulated and that a relationship of mutual understanding and trust be established,

to the end that trustees be involved in broad policy matters rather than detailed artistic decisions.

10. We believe spiralling costs, the need to hold ticket prices within reasonably affordable bounds, and the inevitable gap between earned income and expenses, pose a major threat to the existence of many performing arts organizations. Increased exploration of effective marketing and management techniques will help narrow this gap, but the need for subsidy will remain.
11. We believe the Congress and the state legislatures should provide further tax incentives to encourage private, foundation, and corporate support of the arts.
12. We believe that national corporations doing business in a region should recognize a responsibility to support performing arts groups in the region.

N.B.

There were 76 participants from the four states of Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Missouri, 17 of whom were Kansans. Five Kansans represented theatre: Jed Davis, George Foreman, Charley Oldfather, Ron Willis and Twink Lynch. There were nine other theatre representatives, among whom were Pat McIlrath (MO), Nancy Duncan (NE), and Anne Schafer (OK). Other performing arts represented were: opera, symphony, dance, and management and/or arts patron/trustee representatives. This report will be published soon by the American Assembly. For additional copies, write to: Linda Hood Talbot, University of Missouri/Kansas City, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110.

ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE Application for Membership

Name _____

Division preference:

Childrens Theatre _____

Address _____

Community Theatre _____

Professional _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Secondary School _____

Univ./College _____

Theatre or school affiliation: _____

New membership _____

Renewal _____

Type of Membership

Receiving MARQUEE? yes _____ no _____

Individual:

Student (\$ 5 yr.) _____

Regular (\$ 10 yr.) _____

Contributing (\$ 25 yr.) _____

Sustaining (\$ 50 yr.) _____

Angel* (\$100 yr.) _____

Organizational:

Budget under \$5000 (\$ 20 yr.) _____

Budget \$5000-\$10,000 (\$ 30 yr.) _____

Budget over \$10,000 (\$ 50 yr.) _____

Angel* (\$100 yr.) _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

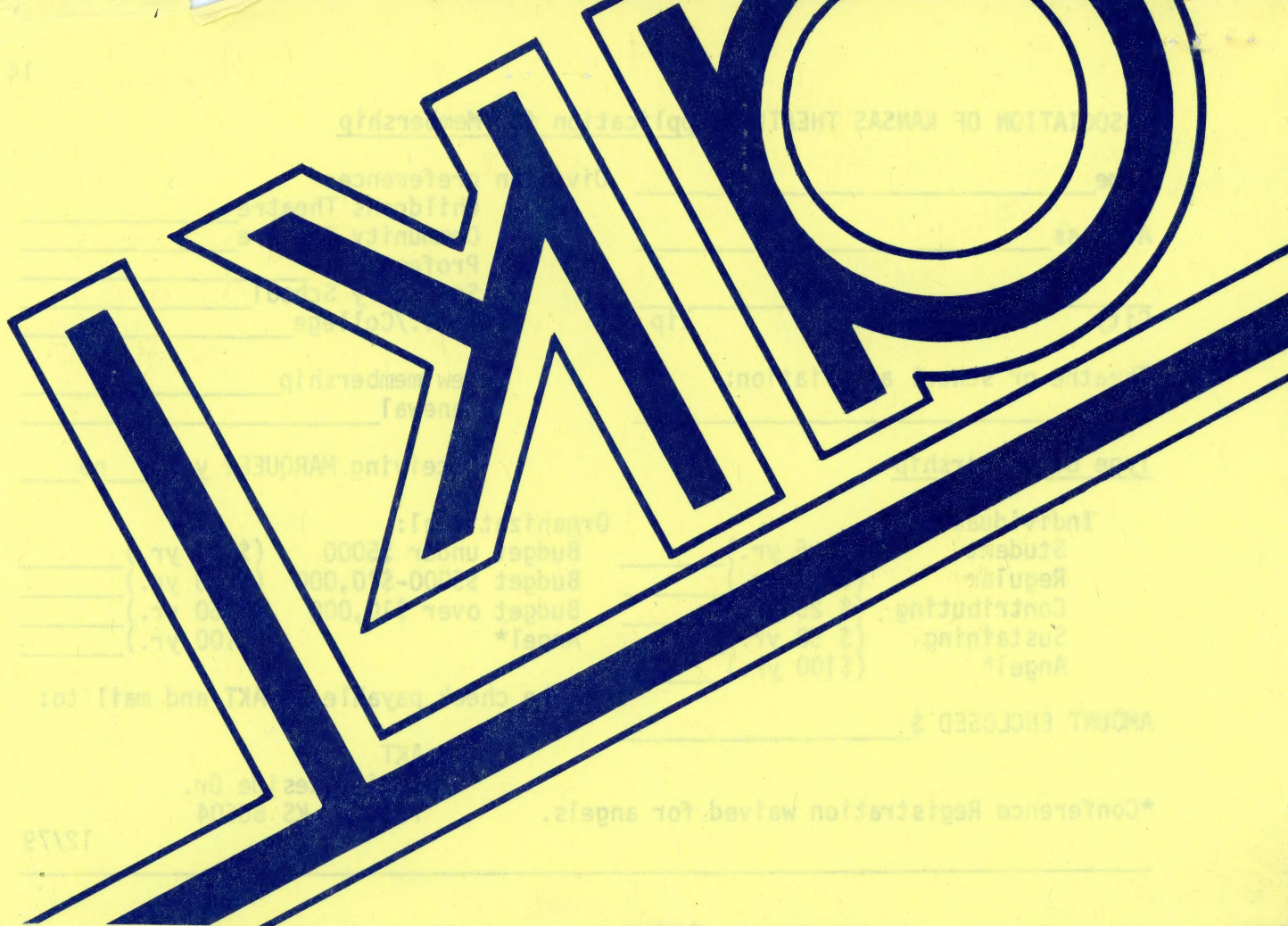
Make check payable to AKT and mail to:

AKT

1334 Lakeside Dr.

Topeka, KS 66604

*Conference Registration waived for angels.



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